

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-05 CU-02 OPR-02 A-01

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O R 220852Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2393

DIA IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 23563

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, TH, PINT

SUBJ: PRAPHAT LEAVES BANGKOK ENROUTE TO TAIWAN

THAI POLICE HAVE CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT FIELD
MARSHAL PRAPHAT CHARUSATHIAN, ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER OF
INDUSTRY CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN AND 10 OTHER THAI MILITARY
AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS, DEPARTED BANGKOK AIRPORT AT 1415
LOCAL TIME AUG 22. NEWS HAD BEEN CARRIED AT ABOUT 1420
ON ARMORED DIVISION RADIO STATION AND HAS EVIDENTLY SPREAD
RAPIDLY. (FBIS IS CARRYING TEXT OF ARMORED DIVISION BROAD-
CAST.)

AIRCRAFT IS THAI INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS SPECIAL FLIGHT
DESIGNATED SRISUNTHORN TO TAIPEI. PRAPHAT IS ACCOMPANIED
BY MRS. CHIRAPA ATTANAN (PRAPHAT'S DAUGHTER) AND MRS. CHACHADAPORN
RAKSANAWES (WIFE OF CHARNCHAI THIENPRAPAS), BOTH OF WHOM WILL
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STAY IN TAIPEI.

ALSO ON FLIGHT ARE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN, KON TAPARANGSI (CHATCHAI'S PRIVATE SECRETARY), POLICE LTG CHUMPOL LOHACHALA (DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE), POLICE COL KOVIT POOPANICH, POLICE LIEUTENANT AMANIWAT PRAYOONPOKARACH, MR. SOMPOP SRISOMWONG, MR. PALLOP TANYONGMAS, LIEUTENANT MONGKOL PROMSIT, AND LIEUTENANT RATANA KRACHANGPOTE (LATTER TWO DESCRIBED AS MILITARY OFFICERS). APART FROM MRS. CHIRAPA AND MRS. CHACHADAPORN, WHO WILL REMAIN IN TAIPEI, TOGETHER WITH PRAPHAT, REMAINDER OF PARTY WILL RETURN TO BANGKOK, SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT 2300 LOCAL TIME. SITUATION AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY, SCENE OF BLOODSHED AUG 21, HAS CALMED DOWN. BARRICADES ERECTED BY LEFTIST STUDENTS WERE TAKEN DOWN AUG 22 AND MOST OF THOSE INSIDE CAMPUS HAVE NOW LEFT. THERE WAS BRIEF CONFRONTATION MORNING OF AUG 22 WHEN LEFT-WING STUDENTS REPORTEDLY SOUGHT TO PREVENT NUMBER OF PERSONS FROM LEAVING CAMPUS. VICE RECTOR OF THAMMASAT, SANEH CHAMARIG, ASKED FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE TO PERMIT PEOPLE TO LEAVE WHO WISHED TO DO SO. POLICE DECLINED TO INTERVENE, FEARING CLASH WITH STUDENTS. SITUATION HAS RESOLVED ITSELF, HOWEVER, AS NOTED ABOVE. POLICE NOW BELIEVE THERE WERE TWO KILLED (BOTH VOCATIONAL STUDENTS) AND 36 INJURED, INSTEAD OF THREE KILLED AND 38 INJURED, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. BANGKOK POST AUG 22 REPORTS TWO KILLED AND 60 INJURED. NONE OF ABOVE FIGURES ARE FULLY RELIABLE AS SOME OF INJURED WERE PROBABLY TREATED PRIVATELY. THREE OF THE INJURED WERE SERIOUSLY HURT, AND IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHAT THEIR PROGNOSIS IS. EMBASSY WILL APPRAISE THIS WEEK-LONG INCIDENT IN GREATER DETAIL IN NEXT FEW DAYS. WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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